

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #61:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

It was a busy start to the week. I appreciate some of the kind words I received regarding my website remodel. This weekend there are a few auctions that will take my attention. Next week I'll be working but also enjoying some quality time in Austin, Texas during spring break. I'm reachable for clients if you need to get in touch.

Here is what is happening this week and in the coming week.

Obolos Web Auction 9 (March 25)

The popularity of the Obolos auction on March 18 caused their servers to crash and ultimately them having to reschedule the entire sale. It doesn't surprise me that the server crashed. The sale is very nice and while it may not be so most visually beautiful auction it is very exciting from a pedigree perspective. I'll repeat what I mentioned last week in the case you did not read my newsletter.

Probably one of the more exciting web auctions this week is from Obolos (the Nomos web auction sister company). This auction features the third installment from the illustrious Stoecklin collection. Coinsweekly features a nice write-up on the collector. Here is a link to that article:

<http://www.coinsweekly.com/en/News/The-story-of-the-Stoecklin-Collection/4?&id=5245>

The Stoecklin portion of the auction is 486 coins of the Roman and Byzantine type, however, there are an additional 358 coins also being offered through this web auction. Stoecklin bought privately from some of the biggest auction houses/dealers in the 1940's and later. While some coins are not in wonderful condition, their pedigree history makes them enormously enticing for collectors of today.

I am participating in this auction so please do get in touch if you need my help.

Bertolami E-Live Auction 57 (March 25)

I don't regularly bid in the Bertolami auctions but this one is worth your attention. Bertolami has managed to acquire a few interesting collections, the Pavlos Pavlou collection of Ptolemaic coinage and the Simonetta Collection of Parthian coins. The auction is 604 lots in total. While many of the coins from the Parthian collection are not mint state, they are nonetheless interesting because of the collection they come from. Alberto Simonetta has published extensively on the Parthian series and his books are used as references for collectors.

I am registered to bid in this auction for those interested.

Triskeles Auction 329 (March 27)

Triskeles is auctioning off 1,1016 lots on March 27. What makes this auction special are the many lots offered from the Benjamin Bell estate. Some of you may have known Ben, a numismatist. I had the pleasure to meet him and even shared a meal with him at my house a few years back. Ben was too young to die and his passing is tragic. If you want to know more about Ben then see this lovely Coinsweekly article written about him after his passing.

<http://www.coinsweekly.com/en/Benjamin-Ben-Bell-1976-2017/4?&id=4691>

I will plan to participate in the auction. Please get in touch if you need my help.

Agora Auction 73 (March 27)

Agora has 450 lots to be auctioned on March 27. I've explained in earlier newsletters that many smaller dealers have the wonderful opportunity to auction off material through Agora. There are always good deals and diamonds in the rough. Be sure to check it out.

CNG E Auction 417 (March 28)

CNG has 725 lots to be auctioned on March 28. As always one can find beautiful coins and even get them at a steal if you are lucky! The competition can be fierce however so planning ahead a bit is always recommended with these auctions. Please get in touch if you need my help. I routinely participate and have helped give bid recommendations so many customers get coins with ease.

Naumann Auction 64 (April 1)

Naumann has 995 coins being auctioned on April 1. I've started to notice more pedigreed material in the Naumann auctions of late. The estimates are routinely low on these pieces so getting a good deal is more likely than not. Of course good coins also seem to attract attention even in the most remote auctions but there is plenty to offer in this sale.

Roma XV (April 5)

Some of you should have received a catalog from me by now for the Roma sale taking place on April 5 in London. There are 756 beautiful Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Islamic and world coins on offer. I am arriving in London a few days before so I can properly view the entire sale. Of course if you know you want representation then I would appreciate you contacting me as soon as possible. My time is much better utilized when I have some advance notice on what lots I should really focus on.

Upcoming Switzerland Trip (May 7-14)

NAC, Nomos and Leu Numismatik will all hold auctions in early May. I've already purchased my ticket to fly out there and I plan to attend all three auctions. Unfortunately Hess-Divo and Sincona will not be around the same time but I will have the opportunity to view lots from their auctions. It is still early but once I receive catalogs from these auction houses I will forward them onto interested persons. To get a headstart I also plan to view a part of the NAC auction material while I am in London.

Chicago Coin Expo Trade Show, Gemini and Heritage auctions (April 18-21)

The second annual Chicago Coin Expo is taking place on April 18-21 at the historic downtown Palmer House Hotel. I am setting up and will be at table 15 during the show. I hope to see some of you there.

Gemini and Heritage will hold auctions during the show at the same location. I plan to view and attend these auctions so please get in touch if you need representation.



Coin of the Week

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/greek-coins/islands-off-ionia-samos-hegesianax-magistrate-c-4084-38066-bc>

ISLANDS off IONIA, Samos. Hegesianax, magistrate. c. 408/4-380/66 BC
AR Tetradrachm, 14.60g (24.5mm, 12h). Facing lion scalp / Forepart of bull right;
ΗΓΗΣΙΑΝΑΞ above, olive branch to left, monogram and ΣΑ below; all within shallow
incuse square.

Price: \$4,950

The island of Samos is most famously known as the birthplace of the mathematician Pythagoras. He was born on Samos sometime around 570 BC. In 532 BC, Pythagoras emigrated to Italy to escape the tyrannical rule of Polycrates, who himself was murdered by the Persians in 522 BC. Due to its strategic position off the coast of Asia Minor, Samos was a strong power in the 6th century BC. It alternated its allegiance between Athens and Persia and also had a strong relationship with the Egyptians. The Egyptian relationship was one of the reasons that they were able to grow in power despite being a small island. The mighty Egyptian naval forces helped to elevate the small island. The influence that Egypt had on Samos can be seen in a kouros that is located in their local museum. It is the largest kouros in Greece in existence. The kouros has an Egyptian headdress which is typical for early examples.

Samos was also known for its vineyards and to this day still produces muscat wine. At the time this coin was produced, Samos was independent and this coin was struck under a magistrate, Hegesianx (as referenced by the legend on the reverse of the coin). The Peloponnesian War had just finished and Samos had sided with Athens and hosted the Athenians on their island for support. After the war, Samos became independent until the Spartans under the general Lysander took control of the island.

References: Barron Class X, 129 var. (A58/P– [unlisted rev. die]); HGC 6, 1218; BMC 134 (same obv. die); McClean 8407 (same obv. die)

Grade: Beautiful iridescent toning and nice surfaces. Minimal wear. aEF
gk1195

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/greek-coins/islands-off-ionia-samos-hegesianax-magistrate-c-4084-38066-bc>

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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